

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1.       An electroluminescent lamp comprising:  
2                   a first section of transparent, electrically conductive material selectively patterned  
3                         on a surface of a substrate;  
4                   a second section of transparent, electrically conductive material selectively  
5                         patterned on the surface of the substrate, wherein the second section of  
6                         transparent, electrically conductive material is electrically isolated from  
7                         the first section of transparent, electrically conductive material;  
8                   a first integral fusible link between a first electrode input power contact and the  
9                         first section of transparent, electrically conductive material; and  
10                  a second integral fusible link between a second electrode input power contact and  
11                         the second section of transparent, electrically conductive material;  
12                  wherein the first fusible link or the second fusible link fails to allow electrical  
13                         current to flow if a certain level of current is exceeded.

1           2.       The electroluminescent lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transparent  
2           conductive material comprises indium tin oxide.

1           3.       The electroluminescent lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the substrate  
2           comprises polyethylene terephthalate.

1           4.       The electroluminescent lamp as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a carbon-  
2           filled conductive composition deposited onto the transparent, electrically conductive material.

1           5.       The electroluminescent lamp as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a phosphor  
2           layer deposited onto the transparent, electrically conductive material.

1           6.       The electroluminescent lamp as claimed in claim 5, further comprising a dielectric  
2           layer deposited onto the phosphor layer.

1           7.     An electroluminescent lamp comprising:  
2                 a first section of indium tin oxide selectively patterned on a surface of a substrate;  
3                 a second section of indium tin oxide selectively patterned on the surface of the  
4                         substrate, wherein the second section of indium tin oxide is electrically  
5                         isolated from the first section of indium tin oxide;  
6                 a carbon-filled conductive composition deposited onto the indium tin oxide;  
7                 a phosphor layer deposited onto the indium tin oxide;  
8                 a dielectric layer deposited onto the phosphor layer;  
9                 a first electrode input power contact;  
10                a second electrode input power contact;  
11                a first integral fusible link between the first electrode input power contact and the  
12                         first section of indium tin oxide; and  
13                a second integral fusible link between the second electrode input power contact  
14                         and the second section of indium tin oxide;  
15                wherein the first fusible link or the second fusible link fails to allow electrical  
16                         current to flow if a certain level of current is exceeded, without exhibiting  
17                         signs of combustion.

1           8.     The electroluminescent lamp as claimed in claim 7, wherein the  
2     electroluminescent lamp comprises a night light.

1           9.     The electroluminescent lamp as claimed in claim 7, wherein the substrate  
2     comprises polyethylene terephthalate.

1           10.    A method for manufacturing an electroluminescent lamp, the method comprising  
2 the steps of:  
3                depositing a transparent, electrically conductive material onto a surface of a  
4                substrate to form a pattern comprising a first section of transparent,  
5                electrically conductive material and a second section of transparent,  
6                electrically conductive material;  
7                providing a first integral fusible link between a first electrode input power contact  
8                and the first section of transparent, electrically conductive material; and  
9                providing a second integral fusible link between a second electrode input power  
10              contact and the second section of transparent, electrically conductive  
11              material;  
12              wherein the first fusible link or the second fusible link fails to allow electrical  
13              current to flow if a certain level of current is exceeded.

1           11.    The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the transparent conductive material  
2 comprises indium tin oxide.

1           12.    The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the substrate comprises polyethylene  
2 terephthalate.

1           13.    The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the step of depositing a transparent,  
2 electrically conductive material onto a surface of a substrate comprises the step of screen printing  
3 the transparent, electrically conductive material onto selected portions of the substrate.

1           14.    The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the step of depositing a transparent,  
2 electrically conductive material onto a surface of a substrate comprises the step of removing a  
3 portion of the transparent, electrically conductive material.

1           15.    The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the step of removing a portion of the  
2 transparent, electrically conductive material comprises lasing.

1           16.    The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the step of removing a portion of the  
2 transparent, electrically conductive material comprises chemical etching.

1           17.     The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the step of removing a portion of the  
2 transparent, electrically conductive material comprises scribing.

1           18.     The method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising the step of depositing a  
2 carbon-filled conductive composition onto the transparent, electrically conductive material.

1           19.     The method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising the step of depositing a  
2 phosphor layer onto the transparent, electrically conductive material.

1           20.     The method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising the step of depositing a  
2 dielectric layer onto the phosphor layer.